

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



62,43

1920

RECEIVED

JAN 31 1920

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

# Lyman's GRIMM ALFALFA



Let the slogan be—

*"Alfalfa on Every Farm"—because it is*

*—The Leader of forage crops*

*—The most cheaply produced of all feed.*

3 to 5 Harvests a Year

A Reliable Peace Time Ally for every Farmer.

*A. B. Lyman*  
INTRODUCER  
"GRIMM'S HARDY ALFALFA"

ALFALEDALE  
F A R M

EXCELSIOR,  
MINNESOTA.

---

# Some Facts About Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa

---

1. It is positively the hardest alfalfa seed on the market. (See Government Bulletin No. 209, Bureau of Plant Industry—Page 21).
2. The strong branching roots of Lyman's Grimm prevent winterkilling as in common ordinary alfalfa.
3. These same roots which grow in time 6 to 20 feet in length and as thick as a man's wrist, provide **drought resistance**, and unusual productiveness.
4. Again these great roots make humus when ploughed into the soil, and this humus conserves moisture, thus preparing the soil for whatever subsequent crop might call for it.
5. Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa plants are extraordinary soil fertilizers capable of transforming the free nitrogen of the air into soluble nitrates through the agency of the nodule forming bacteria on the roots.

In the words of B. Byron Bobb, Institute Lecturer, N. D.:

*"Alfalfa gives much, requiring little; it yields bountifully, asks less; it pays a princely royalty, working gratis."*

We offer to send a free sample to you and to any friends of yours who you think would be interested in the purchase of Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa Seed.

Ask for seed sample and, if you please, send in a few names to A. B. Lyman, Alfalfadale Farm, Excelsior, Minn.

---

## The Discovery of a Hardy Alfalfa Called Grimm



A. B. LYMAN

IT WAS back in 1890 when Mr. Lyman was teaching school about 10 miles west of his home in Carver County that he first ran across alfalfa, or everlasting clover.

Impressed by the character and quality of this hay he took a sample home to his father. The result was that they purchased 30 pounds of ordinary alfalfa seed in Minneapolis, and seeded two acres in barley and had a good stand, the next summer. They cut three heavy crops of hay and there was quite another crop that they did not harvest. But in the spring they found all the alfalfa was dead—had winterkilled.

This would have ended the alfalfa for Mr. Lyman had he not chanced to find the German farmers still had a perfect stand and that they had suffered no loss.

Upon inquiry it developed that these successful alfalfa growers were obtaining their seed from an old German named Grimm who had brought about 20 pounds of seed over from Germany. It seems that even old Grimm had had his struggles with alfalfa winterkilling. But he had a hardy seed to begin with, and he patiently persisted and saved the seed from the plants that survived. Gradually what he developed over a period of years has come to be known as GRIMM ALFALFA.

Since 1890 Mr. Lyman has taken this Grimm Alfalfa and has during the past eighteen years continued old Grimm's process of developing the seed from the hardiest plants until now his confidence in Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa seed is backed by a guarantee in writing as to the genuineness of the seed, and a standing offer to take back and refund on any of his seed found to contain dodder, quack grass, Canadian Thistles or Sow Thistles. For Mr. Lyman knows his seed is 99% and over—**pure—and is prepared to stand behind it.**



# " *Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa* "

Editorial by Joseph E. Wing, Mechanicsburg, Ohio, published in *The Breeders' Gazette*, July 9, 1914:

"A party of us drove down into the depths of Carver County, to see where originated the Grimm alfalfa, or where it came to our notice. A. B. Lyman met us. He more than any other man has brought that old German farmer Grimm's alfalfa to the notice of the world. For forty years Mr.

Grimm persisted in growing his "everlasting clover," the alfalfa from seed that he had secured in Germany. Some years the winter killed nearly every bit. With true German persistence and thrift he saved seed from what he had left and kept on. Thus by elimination he got rid of all weak strains, the hardest only persisting. Mr. Lyman took it up and has done praiseworthy work in increasing stocks of seed."

## Requoting From Recognized Authorities

From Page 42 of the Annual Report of the Minnesota Agricultural Society of 1903, we copy the following:

Prof. Hayes: This is a young man (A. B. Lyman) I want to make an example of. When Mr. Lyman told me he had discovered this hardy alfalfa, I said to him, "You co-operate with the Experiment Station and I will co-operate with you, and we will give you a reputation as a seedsman." I expect to co-operate in helping Mr. Lyman distribute this seed where it will be used for growing seed. We expect to distribute some of it through the Department of Agriculture that it may be grown in other places and the seed produced even more abundantly than in

Minnesota. Ever since I saw those fields and saw the evidence among the Carver County farmers that this was a hardy variety it has been a very interesting matter.

Prof. Spillman, Washington, D. C.: Mr. President, I am glad to see Professor Hayes take the stand that he does. I want to say a word about growing alfalfa seed. I cannot help but be impressed with this paper read by Mr. Lyman this afternoon as of vital importance to the future of agriculture in the State of Minnesota and in the Dakotas. We have been searching the world for a variety of alfalfa that would do just what this variety does. . . . The value of that seed represents more than a million dollars to the State of Minnesota.



Showing Comparison of Harvests, Grimm with Common Alfalfa

# " *Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa* "

From United States Government Bulletin No. 209 by Charles J. Brand, Bureau Plant Industry, Washington, D. C., Page 21, Bulletin No. 209:

"Recognition of the superiority of the Grimm variety over ordinary alfalfa by Mr. Lyman and through him by Prof. Hayes of the Minnesota Station, marked a third era in the evolution of alfalfa culture in the Northwest. The Grimm alfalfa is much harder than the ordinary kinds obtained from Kansas, Utah and elsewhere, and there is even strong reason to believe that it is the hardiest known form of the cultivated plant. It not only endures extremely low temperatures with or without snow and other adverse conditions, but it can be cut with greater safety late in the fall and will bear more abuse in the way of pasturage than any other plant that has been compared with it until this time. There is some dis-

agreement among investigators as to how Grimm alfalfa obtained its hardness, but there is no difference of opinion that it is hardy."

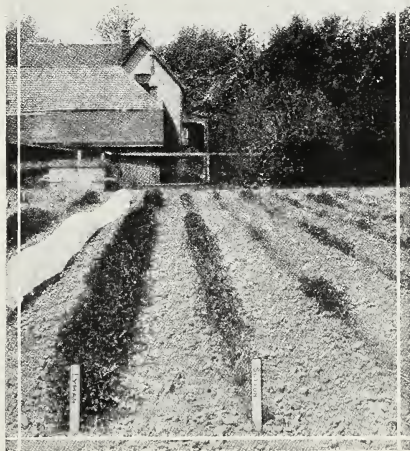
From report of Alfalfa Specialist F. Forbell of the Minnesota College of Agriculture, taken from Hoard's Dairyman of September 7, 1917:

During the summer of 1915, 168 fields were established by the writer in Southeastern Minnesota. On 47 of these fields Grimm was sown alongside of Liscomb alfalfa—a variety which has been developed in Minnesota and advertised to be quite as hardy as the Grimm. On most of the remaining fields South Dakota Common and Montana Common seed was sown. During the winter of 1915-1916 an ice sheet of from two to three inches deep covered this section for from four to six weeks. All of the clover, rye, most of the Liscomb, and other common seed winterkilled; also much of the meadows and pastures. But the Grimm alfalfa came through the winter in excellent condition.

In his annual report in 1907, the Secretary of Agriculture predicted that the further extension of alfalfa growing on large areas is a prize that will be worth hundreds of millions of dollars annually. With due persistence and an intelligent use of present knowledge, the North and Northwest can now begin to collect at least a part of their ultimate share of this prize.

In the fall of 1904, Mr. Lyman sold the Bureau of Plant Industry, Washington, D. C., their first lot of Grimm seed. One year he shipped the U. S. Department of Agriculture, twenty sacks of Grimm alfalfa. The next fall, he sold it another load of 4,000 lbs.

As early as 1904 the Department at Washington became interested in Grimm's hardy alfalfa. From page 25 of the **Annual Report of B. T. Galloway**, Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, we copy the following: "**Grimm Alfalfa**—Experiments thus far conducted indicate that this is the hardiest variety of **Medicago Sativa** of which we have knowledge."



"I am sending above photograph of Grimm alfalfa from you, alongside of thirteen commercial samples. You will see that it is much harder than the others. Out of 88 varieties and strains of alfalfa, 'Lyman's Grimm' was amongst the few that came through the winter of 1912 and 1913, a very severe winter."—From letter of Prof. L. A. KLINK of Macdonald College, Quebec, Canada.



## **ALFALFA**

### **And Its Relation to Agriculture in the Semi-Arid Region**

Extracts from B. Byron Bobb's Address Before  
Tri-State Convention in 1918.

But to the proof. What will alfalfa do for us? First, it will maintain and increase the humus content of the soil. Second, it will conserve and therefore increase the moisture supply. Third, it will maintain and increase the nitrogen supply in the soil. Fourth, it will immeasurably improve the physical condition of the soil. Let us take these up in order.

#### **Alfalfa Makes Humus**

First, the humus. There is no other farm plant that has so extensive and far-reaching a root system as has the alfalfa. These great roots, sheared off by the plow, decay and add an amount of humus little suspected and appreciated less and add it in a distribution most near the surface but extending many feet into the subsoil. Into the surface soil is also incorporated from the growing plant by the sloughing off of leaves, stem and stubble a considerable quantity of vegetable matter. This humus now gotten into the soil begins its great work of preparing and storing food for whatever subsequent plant root may call for it.

#### **Alfalfa Conserves Moisture**

Second, the moisture supply. This is a direct result of first getting the humus into the soil and increasing its sponginess so that it can retain two, three, four times the amount of moisture it previously could hold. This moisture, dissolving the more readily by aid of humus and its acids, the minerals, the carbon, the nitrates, becomes the rich soup food, stored and held in readiness for succeeding crops.

#### **Alfalfa Builds Nitrogen Supply**

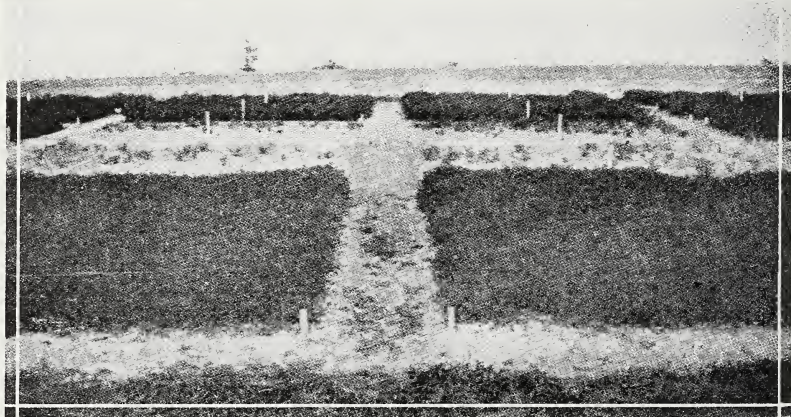
Third, the nitrogen supply. That alfalfa is capable of transforming the free nitrogen of the air into soluble nitrates through the agency of the nodule-forming bacteria on its roots is now so well recognized that the mention of the fact would seem sufficient,

though to what an extent nitrates are used by all growing plants and to what an extent the alfalfa will replace and store up nitrates in the soil is not sufficiently well appreciated. To give us an idea how important and costly nitrate is I wish to quote from the annual bulletin for 1917 of the International Institute of Agriculture. In 1916 the United States used in round numbers 1,350,000 tons of nitrate at an average cost of \$67.00 per ton. This was before the government used any considerable portion for war purposes, the bulk being used by the eastern and southern states trying to pommel something out of their exhausted farms. Think of those folks first having to put \$90,000,000.00 into the soil in the hope of getting a little more back!

#### **Why Not Nitrate Plants on Every Farm?**

The world considered it a great achievement when a few years ago Germany, cut off from her nitrate supplies in Chili, devised a manufacturing plant that distilled nitrates from the nitrogen of the air. But I tell you it will be a far greater achievement when every American farmer installs upon his farm a billion of nitrate manufacturing plants—alfalfa plants—transforming, from that inexhaustible supply of 45,000 tons of nitrogen above every acre an abundant and priceless fertilizer without one cent of cost. I want to give in this connection the results or effect upon the land of alfalfa growing from two viewpoints. First are the data obtained by a most painstaking investigator and authority on alfalfa—L. R. Waldron. He says that every ton of alfalfa grown on an acre if returned direct or in manure will put into that acre an amount of humus and of nitrogen equal to the amount of humus and nitrogen that a 35-bushel wheat crop, or a 50-bushel corn crop, or a 60-bushel oat crop will remove.

Second are the results obtained by a practical farmer, Herman Nelson, who lives near Williston, N. D. He planted corn on deeply plowed alfalfa sod and obtained a yield of 68 bushels of Northwestern Dent corn to the acre, or about three times the yield of adjacent fields not on alfalfa sod. Sowing Macaroni wheat the following spring in the corn stubble, he threshed out 42 bushels to the acre when the average yield from other fields in that vicinity was but 16 bushels. And the third year 200 bushels of potatoes to the acre was the reward over and above the normal production of 50 or 60 bushels. In these three years Mr. Nelson grew on alfalfa sod as much



**Grimm Compared with Common Alfalfa**  
Picture Taken from Farm Crops, Published by the Ontario Department  
of Agriculture, Ontario Agricultural College, Toronto, Ont.



# " *Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa* "

corn, as much wheat, as many potatoes as ordinarily grow in nine years on ordinary soil. One plowing against three; one seeding against three; one harvest against three; and six years "to boot" in which to again grow alfalfa. It is plain, as some one has said, "Alfalfa works for nothing and pays for the privilege."

The fourth effect of alfalfa growing upon the soil is a physical one. Why do we plow? Largely, probably, to obtain a certain desirable and necessary physical state of the ground. The best, finest, most economical job of plowing that has ever been done is being done by alfalfa roots. Think it over.

## ALFALFA

The Addison County Farmers Association News,  
Middlebury, Vermont, From Article Published  
September 1st, 1917

**T**HE second crop of alfalfa has now been harvested on the alfalfa demonstration plots throughout the county. Results of both the first and second crops were as follows:

**GRIMM ALFALFA**—Soil limed, seed inoculated—Yield first crop: 3,610 lbs. per acre. Yield second crop: 2,000 lbs. per acre.

**COMMON ALFALFA**—Soil limed, seed inoculated—Yield first crop: 2,400 lbs. per acre. Yield second crop: 1,210 lbs. per acre.

**COMMON ALFALFA**—Soil unlimed, seed uninoculated—Yield first crop: 1,530 lbs. per acre. Yield second crop: 770 lbs. per acre.

It is well to take into consideration other factors. Let us see how the results show on the clay soils as compared with the lighter soils, such as sand, gravel and muck loams. Results follow:

### CLAY SOILS

**GRIMM ALFALFA**—Soil limed, seed inoculated—Yield of first and second crops: 5,640 lbs. per acre.

**COMMON ALFALFA**—Soil limed, seed inoculated—Yield of first and second crops: 4,238 lbs. per acre.

**COMMON ALFALFA**—Soil unlimed, seed uninoculated—Yield of first and second crops: 3,600 lbs. per acre.

### LIGHT SOILS

**GRIMM ALFALFA**—Soil limed, seed inoculated—Yield of first and second crops: 5,590 lbs. per acre.

**COMMON ALFALFA**—Soil limed, seed inoculated—Yield of first and second crops: 3,210 lbs. per acre.

**COMMON ALFALFA**—Soil unlimed, seed uninoculated—Yield of first and second crops: 1,555 lbs. per acre.

In looking over these results a few things are noticeable:

(1) The Grimm variety produced nearly as well on the lighter soils as on the clay soils.

(2) The common variety where the soil was limed and seed inoculated produced only about three-fourths as much on lighter soils as on the clay soils.

(3) The common variety where the soil was unlimed and the seed uninoculated was practically a fail-

ure (and in all but two cases was an absolute failure) on the light soils; while on the clay soils it produced a fair crop.

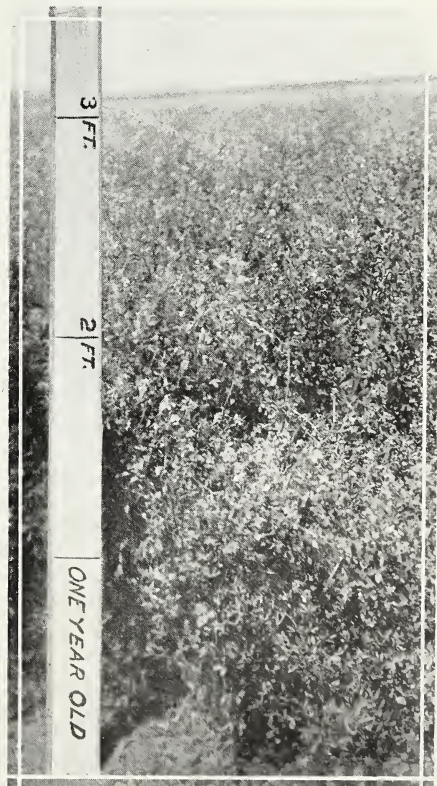
There is one other factor, drainage, which seems to have had an important bearing on the results, especially where the Grimm variety was compared with the common on clay soils. When the clay was well drained the difference between the yield of the Grimm variety and the common was not so great as where the soil is not well drained.

### GENERAL CONCLUSIONS:

The reader should remember that these conclusions are taken only from the demonstrations carried on during the past two years, and while they are by no means conclusive, they should be well considered by men sowing alfalfa in Addison County:

(1) The Grimm variety is superior to the common on all soils.

(2) Liming and inoculation is vital on lighter soils but is not nearly so essential on clay soils.



This Grimm's Alfalfa was planted June 1, 1911. Picture Taken September 1, 1912.  
The First Cutting Was Made June 20th.  
This is the Second Crop

# " Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa "



Grimm Alfalfa in Rows 30 Inches Apart at McLeod Demonstration Farm, North Dakota

CO-OPERATIVE EXTENSION WORK  
IN  
AGRICULTURE AND HOME ECONOMICS  
STATE OF VERMONT

COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURE OF THE  
UNIVERSITY OF VERMONT, U. S. DE-  
PARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE AND  
ADJUTANT COUNTY FARMERS ASSO-  
CIATION CO-OPERATING

EXTENSION SERVICE  
COUNTY AGENT WORK

MIDDLEBURY, VT. May 29, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman,  
Alfalfadale Farm,  
Excelsior, Minn.

My dear Mr. Lyman:

I am taking the liberty to answer your recent letter addressed to Mr. J. E. Carrigan, in that I am Mr. Carrigan's successor. I am enclosing an issue of our Farm Bureau News which will tell you about the success of alfalfa in this county better than I can in a short letter. I believe your company sold the Farmers Exchange in this county about 4,000 pounds of Grimm seed this year. It may interest you to know that this is about half of the alfalfa seed sold in this whole county. Another thing which may interest you is the fact that we raise more alfalfa in this county than all the other thirteen counties of the state together.

I am enclosing a list of names as you wished.

Very truly yours,

County Agricultural Agent.

INB:MCH



# " *Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa* "

## WE SUBMIT THE PROOF

June 17, 1918.  
Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

Replying to yours of recent date will state that I grew both varieties for three years—the 20th Century and your Grimm. The former is practically all winter-killed—the latter, however, seems to get more sturdy every year.

CHAS. WAGNER,  
Loretto, Minn.

July 15, 1918.  
Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

In replying to yours of the 8th, will say that the Grimm seed which we purchased from you several years ago proved very satisfactory in this state. This was distributed in small lots to farmers in all parts of the state, and was sown alongside of the common alfalfa seed. In nearly every case, the Grimm seed was reported to be superior to the common. While we are yet somewhat in doubt as to the suitability of alfalfa as a regular field crop here, we find that a good many farmers are interested largely from the experimental standpoint.

New Hampshire Agricultural Experiment Station,  
Durham, N. H.

June 2nd, 1918.  
Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

None other but Genuine Grimm alfalfa for me after this. Sowed common and your Grimm side by side a year ago. Just finished cutting a good stand of Grimm while the common was a total loss.

O. PAUL SCHWEFEL,  
Brownsville, Wis.

May 27th, 1918.  
Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

I have had ten years' experience with alfalfa. In my judgment your Grimm seed is as big an improvement over the ordinary kind as a Hudson Super-six is over an ox-team.

E. ANTHONY,  
1320 Candler Bldg.,  
Atlanta, Ga.

July 12, 1918.  
Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

I have your letter of the 8th inst. asking about Grimm alfalfa. Grimm alfalfa will stand wet weather conditions much better than common alfalfa since the Grimm puts out a branching root system as well as a tap root which will stand wet soil conditions better than the ordinary alfalfa. It will stand winters much better also.

ALVIN KEZER,  
Chief Agronomist, Fort Collins, Colo.  
Colorado Agricultural College & Exp. Sta.

June 6th, 1918.  
Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

We sowed the Grimm I bought of you last fall and have a beautiful stand of alfalfa from it. We sowed some common alongside of it at the same time and there is a great difference in the two pieces today. The Grimm is so much better in every way.

A. G. THOMPSON,  
Central City, Neb.

May 27th, 1918.  
Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

I had good success with the seed that I purchased from you last year. I sowed 20 pounds on three and one-third acres and have a good stand. I also sowed 7 acres of home grown South Dakota seed at the same time and there was nothing left of it this Spring.

G. F. PETERSON,  
Huron, S. Dak.

June 1st, 1918.  
Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

The Grimm alfalfa which we purchased from you has certainly proven hardy. We sowed it in June, 1916. Had a perfect stand and the two succeeding winters so severe that there are no peach trees surviving, leaves it without any evidence of winterkilling—though we did not top-dress or furnish any protection.

WM. LEE YOST,  
St. Louis, Mich.



"A SURVIVAL OF THE FITTEST"

This picture was taken June 11, 1912, on the Pierce Center Stock and Dairy Farm and represents an alfalfa field. The part in the background was sown in the fall of 1909 and the part in the foreground in 1911 to common northern grown seed—both were winterkilled during winter of 1916-17. The central and remaining portion was sown in 1910 to Grimm's Hardy Seed secured from A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn., and is a thrifty survivor of the severe freezing of that winter, the only possible factor of influence being that of variety.

LOUIS H. KLASS, Maple Park, Ill.

# " *Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa* " "

Ames, Iowa, May 31, 1917.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

Dear Sir: There are very definite advantages in growing Grimm alfalfa in preference to other strains and varieties. In the first place it is absolutely hardy so that there is no danger whatever of winterkilling. In the second place, one may make four cuttings per year instead of three, as is customary with common varieties. With common varieties, it is necessary to leave a good covering on the ground in the fall while with the Grimm the extra cutting may be made in the fall without danger to the alfalfa. The third advantage in growing Grimm, as compared with some other hardy sorts, is the fact that it makes a strong and vigorous growth late in the summer with a result that blue grass and other weeds are not nearly so troublesome. I think there is no doubt but that the value of the extra cutting of a single season would much more than cover the additional cost of Grimm seed.

Yours truly,

H. D. HUGHES,

Professor Iowa State College.

July 29th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

The Grimm alfalfa I bought of you made a splendid stand. It don't pay to seed any other alfalfa in this climate—it will winterkill. In the Spring of 1917, I seeded one bushel of your Grimm and one bushel of Montana. This year I cut over a ton and a half per acre from the Grimm the first cutting—the Montana I plowed under. I expect to get fully as much from the Grimm the second cutting. I am not going to sow any other than the Grimm.

ANTHON LINDEM,

Lindem Farm,

Fisher, Minn.

July 18th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

In answer to your letter of recent date I wish to state that we have been very successful with your pure Grimm seed.

I wish to state further that before using your seed we made two attempts at starting a field but were unsuccessful until we planted your pure Grimm seed.

PEQUEST FARMS,

Belvidere, N. J.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

Dear Sir: Replying to your inquiry as to the condition of my fields seeded with Grimm alfalfa seed, purchased from you, I wish to say that they are in splendid condition. I know of no alfalfa in my section of the state where as good a stand has been secured and as vigorous a crop has been obtained, as that which I seeded with Grimm alfalfa purchased from you. One field has been in now four years, and last year's crop was as heavy as the first cutting from the field. It is a pleasure to me to recommend the Grimm alfalfa seed grown by you as being the very best that can be purchased in my opinion for use in Minnesota. It is very important that one purchasing alfalfa seed should be sure that the real Grimm alfalfa seed, such as you raise, is obtained.

M. D. MUNN, President,

The American Jersey Cattle Club,  
St. Paul, Minnesota.

May 30th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

Four years ago I seeded an 11 acre field to alfalfa. On 7 acres I used Lyman's Grimm at the rate of 8 pounds to the acre. The remainder of field, four acres, I used common alfalfa, sold for Montana at the rate of 25 pounds per acre—both plots sown at the same time with an alfalfa drill. If farmers who contemplate sowing alfalfa and are not sure which seed to buy could see this field today, May 30th, 1918, it would be an object lesson they would not soon forget.

The Grimm came thru the past winter one of the coldest in years without any damage—the common Montana is two-thirds killed out.

C. T. VAN AKEN,

Hillsdale, Mich.

July 19, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

My results with your Grimm alfalfa have been splendid. I have 20 acres seeded with your seed after inoculation. The results could not have been better. My first plot is now three years old.

K. A. WADEL,

Portland, N. D.



From Photograph of a Grimm Alfalfa Harvest Sent in by  
Clarence Arneson, Shelly, Minn.



# " *Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa* "

July 13th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

Most of the farms in Duchesne County, New York, are heavy, springy and somewhat sour, with hard clay or shale bottom. For four years we tried ordinary alfalfa seed, liming and fertilizing with a zeal and determination to raise alfalfa at any cost, and had four successive failures. We reluctantly paid A. B. Lyman \$39.00 for a bushel of Grimm seed, but we had the satisfaction of seeing the alfalfa coming thru the second winter heavier and better than the first cutting. We this season sowed our second field and have the prospect of a certainty for a much evenner crop than our first experiment. There is no question that for land such as we are farming, the only hope of getting alfalfa is in sowing Grimm seed.

JAMES RISK CO., INC.

346 Broadway,  
New York City.

Sunnyside, Wash., June 24th, 1917.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

Dear Sir: Last year I got two shipments of your Grimm seed. The three acres produced three cuttings last year, 12 tons of cured hay in all. My neighbor seeded an adjoining field with common alfalfa at the same time and this spring had to reseed owing to winterkilling. I do not think I lost a plant. To say that I am pleased with your seed is putting it too mildly. I have got them all "skinned" about a ton to the acre, so I can't kick.

Respectfully,

E. S. McCULLOH.

August 12th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

About five years ago I bought 30 pounds of your Grimm seed. When I seeded it, I did not have enough so I went to Hutchinson to look for your seed, but I failed to find any. One store-keeper said, "I have some that I think is better and cheaper. I have Dakota alfalfa which is more hardy." So I bought 30 pounds—seeded it at the same time with your Grimm. The next Spring the Dakota was almost all gone and dead. Eight years ago I seeded some Montana alfalfa—four years ago I sowed what they call Liscomb, and this last Spring all was dead except the Grimm.

My advise is to sow nothing but Grimm and I would not farm without alfalfa.

JOHN OLIVER,

R. 1, Hutchinson, Minn.

Augusta, Wis., August 21st, 1916.

Mr. A. B. Lyman,  
Excelsior, Minn.

Dear Mr. Lyman: My Grimm Alfalfa was seeded on June 1, 1915, without a nurse crop, on a light sandy soil. A piece of about two acres was prepared and inoculated with soil taken from an old alfalfa field. Half of this field was seeded in with Grimm and other half was seeded in with a hardy Montana alfalfa. Special care being taken that both seeds should be grown under identical conditions. Both fields showed good stands in the fall, the Grimm being somewhat finer and not as coarse as the Montana. After a hard winter (the ground covered with ice much of the time because of the midwinter rains), we hardly hoped to see any of the alfalfa in the spring. The Grimm came up with a good stand and the hardy (?) Montana was entirely winterkilled. At the first cutting this year the Grimm was a very satisfactory stand.

Yours truly,

E. P. ASAL,  
Cashier Peoples State Bank.

July 22nd, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

I wish to say that I have been using your Grimm seed for three years past (this being my fourth year with it), and I have noticed a great difference in the vitality of it, as compared with the common variety which I used previously. With the common seed, I had trouble with heaving, as our unprotected ground here in most winters is very hard on the plants, and I have had plants heave until six to eight inches of roots were exposed, naturally killing out the plants. With the Grimm I have never seen any of this, and even after the past winter, which was the worst in over forty years in the vicinity, the plants came through in perfect condition, and we cut a first crop early in June standing over two and a half feet high, and now it is over two feet and ready to cut again. We always get three good crops, and have about a foot left to cover the ground during the winter.

CHARLES E. PRESCOTT, Supt.,  
Meadow Farm,  
Hartsdale, N. Y.

March 29th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

Inclosed you will find two photos of my alfalfa field last summer. This was grown from the seed I bought of you. Photos taken about July 1st, 1917

FRED S. BLANCHARD,  
Cumberland Center, Maine.



The above picture was taken from the top of a mound on the County Farm at Vernon County, Viroqua, Wisconsin, and shows the second cutting of Lyman's Grimm alfalfa that grew in 27 days. This field is four years old and withstood the winter in 1915 when other alfalfas and common clover were killed.

# 11 *Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa* 11



**From Photo Sent in by Fred S. Blanchard,  
Cumberland Center, Maine**

August 9th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

Enclosed please find list of names of the best farmers here whom I believe will be interested in your Grimm seed.

I have had splendid success with the Grimm seed purchased of you about two years ago and expect to purchase more in the Spring. I find that the hard winters here do not affect the Grimm in any way.

W. A. COOK,  
Bonita, Mont.

May 24th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

I take pleasure in saying that the Grimm alfalfa which you sent us has given satisfaction and has proved the most suitable for our conditions, and I am unhesitatingly recommending it to the exclusion of all other varieties.

C. M. LONG, County Agent,  
Sedalia, Mo.

July 12th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

In regard to the Grimm seed purchased from you over a year ago will say I sowed four acres in the spring on white clay and hard pan soil which made five tons per acre last season and the first cutting this season made  $1\frac{1}{2}$  tons to the acre. My four acres of Grimm will equal any in the State of Virginia. I sowed 10 pounds to the acre and it is plenty thick. There has not been one stock killed by winter or summer weather. Your seed has been highly satisfactory and I wish you much success in your sales of seed in this country.

O. M. PRINTZ,  
Luray, Va.

April 11th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

Have received by today's mail a copy of the "Alfalfadale Farm Pamphlet." I was very much impressed with same—knowing as I do the reputation you have made for Grimm alfalfa in Carver County and the State of Minnesota, and the enormous amount of benefit derived from this hardy alfalfa that is able to withstand the usual winterkilling that is so common with other less hardy varieties.

Wishing you continued success, I remain,  
Yours respectfully,

W. J. KUNTZ,  
Representative 21st Dist.,  
Waconia, Minn.

May 31st, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

My Grimm alfalfa is fine. I seeded one-half to Grimm and the other one-half of a field to clover—neither had any winter protection such as grass, weeds, etc. The Grimm came on this spring and the clover every bit winterkilled. I think it will prove to be the plant for this country. I am very well satisfied with my purchase and only wish I had seeded three times as much as I did.

J. A. RICE,  
Fredonia, Kansas.

August 14th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

The winter of 1917-1918 in Northern New York was an extremely severe one, the thermometer registering a temperature of 34 degrees below zero, and in many sections there was no protection, the fields being bare of snow and covered with a sheet of ice during part of February and March.

We had more than 300 acres in alfalfa on our farm and nearly every acre of the common variety was killed. While our fields of Grimm alfalfa were injured to some extent, in fields where there was a good stand and where we grew a fair crop in the summer of 1917, it did not winterkill.

This proves the extreme hardiness of Grimm alfalfa. While the common varieties withstand the ordinary winters in this section, occasionally we have a season so severe that nothing but Grimm alfalfa survives the extreme conditions of cold, sleet and ice.

HEART'S DELIGHT FARM,  
Chazy, N. Y.

May 24th, 1918.

Mr. A. B. Lyman, Excelsior, Minn.

This opportunity is to let you know relative to the Grimm alfalfa seed I bought of you last fall. It was sown on arrival and you would smile to view the field when it is growing—it is now 8 to 10 inches high and will do to harvest in a few days. Expect to get at least three cuttings this year. Grimm winter usually hard on all things but Grimm alfalfa fears it not.

E. H. POWELL,  
McLeansboro, Ill.



**Showing the Leafy Quality of Grimm  
Alfalfa and Its Luxuriant Growth**



## ABOUT GROWING ALFALFA

**O**BVIOUSLY this pamphlet is in the nature of a small digest or collection of endorsements calculated to convince the buyer of Alfalfa seed of the reliability of our Lyman's Grimm.

Space does not permit here, of a practical discussion of growing Alfalfa. Write us how many acres you want to put in Alfalfa, and we will tell you how much seed you will require.

After you have your seed, common sense is the best guide to success in Alfalfa growing, coupled with the knowledge of the soil conditions of your particular locality. Then you had best be guided by the simple but accurate principles as layed down by the U. S. Dept. of Agriculture in its various bulletins. Just write the department at Washington, D. C., for the best bulletin on Alfalfa growing for your locality, also write to your State Farm School, your State Experiment Station, and your County Agent; you will get some real worth-while assistance.

Anyone interested in this subject certainly should have the 80-page pamphlet of Prof. L. F. Garber of the University of Wisconsin, Madison, Wis., called “Alfalfa.” It costs only 50 cents and can be had by writing to the above address. The pamphlet is illustrated and is a very worthy text.



GRIMM

COMMON ALFALFA

### THE GRIMM IN COMPARISON WITH COMMON ALFALFA

This photograph was furnished by Prof. Philo K. Blinn, Alfalfa Specialist of the Experiment Station at Fort Collins, Colorado, showing typical Alfalfa plants grown under exactly the same conditions.

# " *Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa* "

Farmers circular No. 1, published by A. M. Teneyek, Agricultural Extension Department, Emerson-Brantingham Implement Company, Rockford, Ill.—is also well worth having. This is, we think, for free distribution.

One other thoroughly good pamphlet on Alfalfa growing, but confined to the East, is that published by the Industrial Department, Lehigh Valley Railroad Company, 143 Liberty Street, New York City, N. Y.

The most important point about getting started right with Alfalfa is a **firm seed bed**. Fall plowing of the heavy soils is of particular benefit to Alfalfa, in that it gives the seed bed time to settle, and become firm enough to meet with the requirements of the Alfalfa plant.

This matter and the other important subjects such as "When to Seed," "How to Sow," "Liming," "Inoculation," "Cultivation," and "Harvesting" are necessarily too broad to be covered in this pamphlet. The suggestion we have made about writing for pamphlets listed on the previous page is one you should avail yourself of. Alfalfa growing is not difficult in any sense of the word. The pamphlets referred to will give you the information you will need in a short accurate way and make your success certain.

You will read about Soil Inoculation. It's all right! We endorse it. We have thoroughly tested the reliability of **Edwards' Legume Bacteria**.

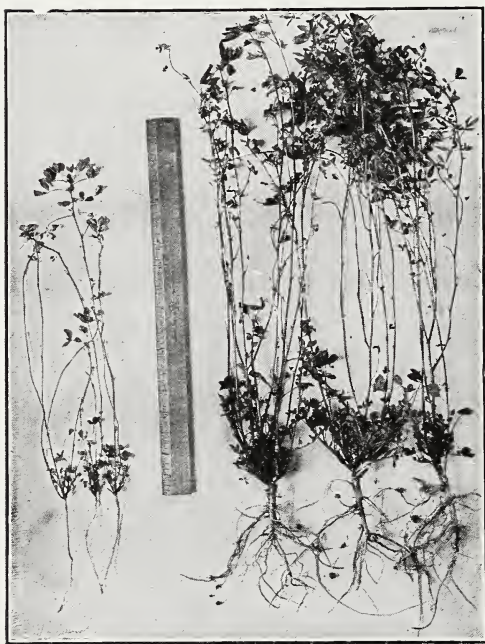
## THE COST

EDWARDS' LEGUME BACTERIA cultures are made in two sizes, to inoculate 30, and 60 pounds of seed.

To inoculate 30 pounds, 60 cents, prepaid.

To inoculate 60 pounds, \$1.20, prepaid.

These prices mean a very low cost per acre, the exact amount depending on the amount of seed sown. Full directions are sent with each bottle. We can furnish cultures for alfalfa, sweet clover, red clover, and all other legume crops.



Grimm Alfalfa plants from different portions of the same field, those on the right from seed inoculated with Edwards' Legume Bacteria, those on the left from the same kind of seed not inoculated. The ruler is 18 inches long. Notice the stocky growth, the thick sturdy roots, and nodule clusters on the inoculated plants as compared with the weak growth of the others.



# " *Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa* "

## Some Alfalfa Pointers From Your Point of View

**W**E WILL assume that you believe Alfalfa is worth while, that is, from the endorsements by reliable experiment stations, and the U. S. Department of Agriculture, you are "Sold" on the fact that Alfalfa and silage form a perfect hay ration for dairy cattle, beef cattle, and hogs—and that **Alfalfa is a perfect substitute for high priced feed.**

If so, you want an honest-to-goodness seed, a genuine hardy Alfalfa that will not winterkill—that will have a good yield, and that will minimize all elements of chance.

From the foregoing endorsements (even from the U. S. Bureau of Plant Industry—and from many experiment stations and large and small growers) there can be little doubt in your mind that it pays to get the best and that the Best is **Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa Seed.**

No Alfalfa is true Grimm if its history cannot be traced to Carver County, Minnesota. We furnish each of our customers an **affidavit** (see facsimile copy on this page) **certifying that the seed supplied is true Grimm.** Each lot of our Grimm Alfalfa seed is directly traceable thru our records back to Grimm whose home was but a few miles from Alfalfadale Farm.

It is a fact that this variety requires 40% less seed than other kinds, because of its stooling habit, also its hay quality is better, as it is finer stemmed and more leafy.

*Eliminate the risk by using Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa seed.*

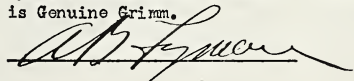
ALFALFADALE FARM  
A. B. Lyman, Proprietor.

Introducer of  
GRIMM'S HARDY ALFALFA


Excelsior, Minn. Nov. 29th. 1918

### C E R T I F I C A T E O F G E N U I N E N E S S .

This is to certify that on the 29th day of November 1918, I sold  
John Smith, Minneapolis, Minn. --- Fifty ----- pounds of  
Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa Seed. I hereby certify that the above mentioned seed  
is Genuine Grimm.



Subscribed and sworn before me this  
day 29th of November 1918, at Excelsior, Minn.

  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
My Commission Expires March 14, 1921

We offer to send a free sample to you and to any friends of yours who you think would be interested in the purchase of Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa seed.

Ask for seed sample and, if you please, send in a few names to A. B. Lyman, Alfalfadale Farm, Excelsior, Minn.

# Lyman's Grimm Alfalfa

---

**W**E SHIP in sealed sacks.

Our alfalfa shows a purity test of 99% and over. If you find that it contains dodder, quack grass, Canada thistles, sow thistles, or any other dangerous weed seeds, you can return same at our expense and we will cheerfully refund your money.

We have a scarifying machine and all seed is scarified before it is shipped out. As the Grimm variety is noted for its hard seeds, this scarifying or scratching process produces a high per cent of germination.

**Shipping Directions:** There is no embargo on seeds. Freight and express rates are reasonable. We guarantee safe delivery. One should keep in mind that express companies give low rates on seed, **much less** than on general merchandise. Due to present shipping conditions, it is advisable to ship by express as far as possible. A small order can sometimes be sent as cheaply by express as by freight.

Seed may also be sent by parcel post. The weight limit to any point in the United States is seventy (70) pounds.

## 1920 PRICE LIST

1 lb. to 10 lbs.	-	-	\$1.00 per lb. prepaid.
10 lbs. to 50 lbs.	-	-	.85 per lb. not prepaid.
50 lbs. to 100 lbs.	-	-	.80 per lb. not prepaid.
100 lbs. and over	-	-	.75 per lb. not prepaid.

Owing to the very high price of bags, we are obliged to make an extra charge of 50c for bags where the order is for 100 lbs. and over.

## A. B. LYMAN

ALFALFADALE FARM  
EXCELSIOR, MINNESOTA

2½ miles south of Excelsior

Both Phones

You are invited to Alfalfadale Farm. Phone us and we will meet you at the street car.

References:

Dunn, Bradstreet, and the Minnetonka State Bank,  
Excelsior, Minn.